

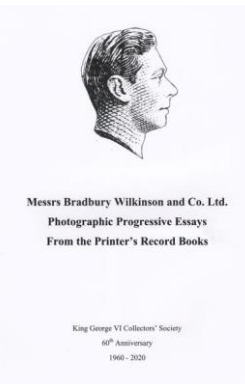
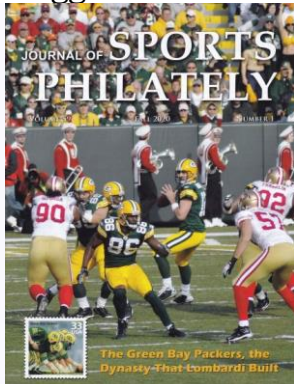
March 2021



Dear Friends of the Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library,



It will come as no surprise to anyone that things are a little chaotic here, however work continues part time and I seem to be keeping up with requests if somewhat more slowly than usual. Please be patient. Many of you seem to be working on philately during these days at home, keep it up! And thank you all for the submissions and suggestions.



We still have a few (very welcome) new items coming in.

We have started to receive *Geosix* as mentioned previously and the *Journal of Sports Philately* is here! This is great as one of our Friends is a regular writer for the journal. Longley Auctions put out this teaser of rail postal maps from 1879. And, there is mention of a book to come, maps are fun. The King George VI Collectors' Society has also published a celebration of their 60th anniversary: *Messrs Bradbury Wilkinson and Co. Ltd. Photographic Progressive Essays From the Printer's Record Books*. These are scans made by Spink & Son when they sold the original pages in 2 auctions in 2013. They very kindly donated the scans to the society for study and analysis. Items from many countries are included, although there are no Canadian examples there are some from Newfoundland.



Our Friends at the Town of York Historical Society and Toronto's First Post Office are having a virtual fundraiser. They have an amazing line up of events for you including performances by mezzo-soprano Julie Nesrallah and violinist Rosemary Lawton, the Haunted Walk and Bruce Bell, the City of Toronto official historian of the St. Lawrence Market. You could also get a behind-the-scenes tour of their collections.

Let's support those stamp people!

You can purchase tickets at:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-old-town-revue-a-love-letter-to-toronto-tickets-137865979857>

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada announced on Tuesday, 23 February that the 2020 Geldert Medal for the best article published in *The Canadian Philatelist* is going to Friend D. Robin Harris, editor of the Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps. The award is for his article “Becoming the Understudy: Canada’s Repeating ‘Canada’ Underprint” in v.71:no.2 (March/April 2020, pages 78-83) about the recent discovery of a prominent printing variety from the definitive stamps of 2012. Congratulations Robin! Check out the RPSC at <https://rpsc.org/index.php>.

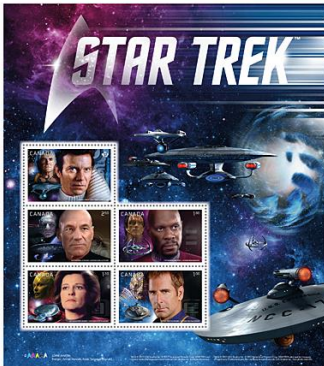
Well, I do not want to get in the middle of the *Star Trek* or *Star Wars* debate with all the arguments about which show is better and which has the most fans and the most dedicated fans, however when I came across the second piece about the U.S. *Star Wars* stamps I really wanted to include some Canadian stamps as well. Both Canada and Britain have issued *Star Trek* stamps. Shown is Unitrade #2912 from 2016



Issued for the 50th anniversary of the original series it includes various collectible items. The Collection Canada book for the year states: “In the history of science fiction, perhaps no franchise has enjoyed more enduring success, broken more new ground or inspired greater loyalty in its fans than *Star Trek*. Created by legendary television producer Gene Roddenberry, the original *Star Trek* premiered September 8, 1966.” And I watched it, live as the 79 episodes aired. Find more information at:

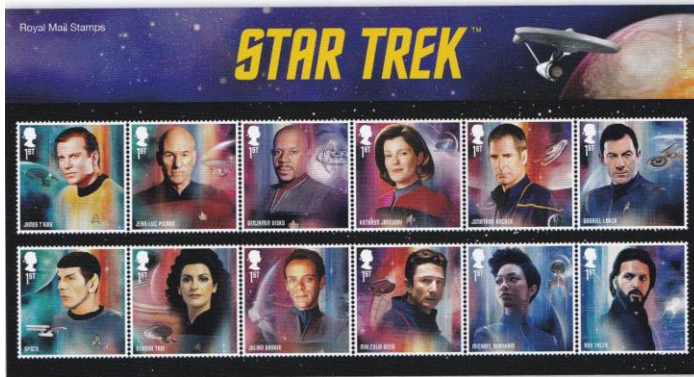
https://www.canadapost.ca/web/en/blogs/collecting/details.page?article=2016%2F05%2F05%2Fstar_trek&cat=stamps&catttype=collecting. The series is designed by Kosta Tsetsekas and Adrian Horvath, both of Vancouver-based Signals Design Group. The stamps and other collectible items focus on the characters in the original program: Leonard Nimoy as Spock, DeForest Kelley as Dr. McCoy and Canadians William Shatner as Captain James T. Kirk, James Doohan as Montgomery “Scotty” Scott and John Colicos who played Commander Kor, the first Klingon character, in only one episode.

That first tv series was a hit with the fans but did not draw a large enough audience to satisfy the networks. In 1973-74 there was a brief animated television series followed by *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* in 1979. After the third movie in 1984 (*The Search for Spock*) there was finally satisfactory proof that the franchise was popular enough for another series: *Star Trek: The Next Generation* started to air in 1987. Of course there are now several more series and many more movies.



This second series is Unitrade #2983 from 2017 called Captain’s Log. The Collection Canada book says: “*Star Trek*TM is one of the longest-running and most popular franchises in science fiction history. Perhaps because, at its core, *Star Trek* has always been a deceptively simple story about the choice between good and evil, and how facing our darker sides can be the first step on the road to discovering our best – and true – selves.” Find more information at:

https://www.canadapost.ca/web/en/blogs/collecting/details.page?article=2017%2F04%2F27%2Fstar_trek&cat=stamps&catttype=collecting. These were designed by the same team as the first series and included each of the captains illustrated with an opponent that they faced in their respective series: Admiral Kirk vs. Khan Noonien Singh, Captian Picard vs. Locutus of Borg (does that count?), Captain Sisko vs. Dukat, Captain Janeway vs. the Borg Queen and Captain Archer vs. Commander Dolim. Choose your fav or the sheet with all of them. There is also a Borg cube in the series.



This British issue of 13 November 2020 was in the November *Royal Mail Philatelic Bulletin*. The article says: “From its inception, *Star Trek* was light years ahead of its contemporaries, embracing ethnic diversity and tackling moral issues, which proved to be inspirational – acquiring a broad fan base.”

The set consists of 12 first class stamps and includes many captains and other characters from the original series up to those currently running on television.

On the other side of the debate: the United States issues *Star Wars* stamps. There will be lots of places where you can find out about the new issue, including the post office at:

<https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2021/0126-new-star-wars-stamps-coming-this-spring.htm>. I am going to tell you about Jason Kottke who has a blog at: <https://kottke.org/21/01/usps-announces-star-wars-droid-stamps>. This is one of the oldest blogs on the web, founded in 1998. The About section has an interesting take on how he does what he does.

USPS Announces Star Wars Droid Stamps

posted by Jason Kottke © Jan 27, 2021

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This is not a philatelic site although there are more posts about stamps, or Star Wars, to peruse. He includes many US and some British

posts. After looking through the blog to see what might interest him, perhaps some of you will suggest some Canadian content for him to include.



These droids cover 4 decades of the *Star Wars* universe. No release date has been given although the issue may be for the 50th anniversary of Lucasfilm in 2021. The USPS includes information about the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) connections that the organization has supported, the link is above.

In addition they issued a sheet (Scott 4143) for the premiere of the 30th anniversary issue of the original movie in 2007.

The history of this franchise is quite different. The first movie *Star Wars* (now referred to as *Episode 4: A New Hope*) hit theatres in 1977. I was here too, I saw all 3 of the original movies as they came out in succession in 1980 and 1983. They also have multiple television series, movies, games, spin-offs and merchandise. And new content is being created all the time.



In all fairness, I should point out that Britain has also issued *Star Wars* stamps in 2015 (Scott 3435-3452, for the premiere of *The Force Awakens*) and droids and aliens, shown here, in 2017 (Scott 3656-3664).

And the US has also issued *Star Trek* stamps: Scott 3118e (the 1960 sheet from the Celebrate the Century series) and a 50th anniversary series, Scott 5132-5135 in 2016.

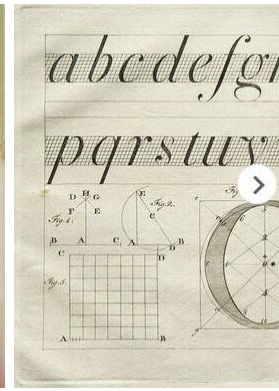
Of course Canada, Britain and the States have all issued many stamps for other actors, movies and TV series. Britain also has an issue from 2013 of the first eleven actors to play Doctor Who (Scott 3141-3156), very British. A quick search on eBay indicates that many other countries have issued *Star Trek* stamps, mostly in the 2010s for the anniversary. For example: Antigua Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Grenadines, Guyana, Nevis, Palau and Tuvalu. There are fewer listings for countries with *Star Wars* stamps although this may be just because they are swamped by US stamps. Spain, Portugal, Malaysia and Madagascar came up.

Just as an aside, it looks like New Zealand has not issued either *Star Wars* or *Star Trek* stamps although they have issued 3 series of stamps (2012-2014) for the *Hobbit* series of films. This makes sense, I suppose, since they were filmed in New Zealand although so was *The Lord of the Rings* series and there do not appear to be stamps for those movies.

So, to get back to the Trek or Wars (or Dr. Who, or Hobbit?) question ... No way, that could go on forever. Debate amongst yourselves if you want to.

In a previous newsletter I included a piece about making a cachet for yourself from Atlas Obscura. They claim to be the definitive guide to the hidden wonders of the world so there are few items relating to stamps although if you travel you could certainly find some interesting places to visit in many of the cities that you are going to visit, one way of searching is by location. However I did find one:

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/fairy-post-office>. An image is shown below left. While not a real post office, it is a great miniature.

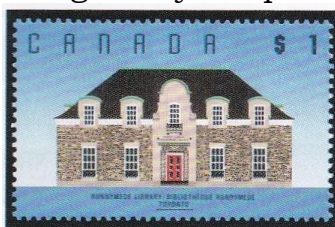


There is also one that I am going to claim is about a library (archive is close enough), a type font library. <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/letterform-archive>. Actually I am quite interested in fonts and have gone out of my way to find some different ones for my own computer. This newsletter is written in Bookman Old Style which is my favourite that is on most computers. It is a serif font with nice wide and round letters and lots of space between the lines. I really do not like the standard fonts that programs use, like Calibri, Ariel and Verdana (which is supposed to be the best font for online reading). There are very few sans-serif fonts that I like enough to use regularly. I do have several other interests and activities in addition to my new stamp collecting.



I expect that you all know by now that the CAPEX'22 website is now live at <https://capex22.org/>. Mark 9-12 June 2022 on your calendar as soon as possible and let us all hope that we will be able to have physical meetings by that time, heavy sigh.

Continuing from my piece last month on the post office stamps, I have found some library stamps. They are from the Architecture series. This first one is Unitrade #1181, the Runnymede library, issued in 1989. The Collection Canada book for that year says: "Bloor West Village in Toronto has a small but unusual public library. Designed by the prominent Toronto architect John M. Lyle and built from local



limestone, the Runnymede Library was completed in 1930 and is uniquely Canadian." A modified Moderne style with both French-Canadian and West Coast Indian

motifs including totem poles at each side of the entrance.

Raymond Bellemare of Montreal designed both of these stamps. The process is very interesting, the article says: "From photographs and plans, Bellemare created a line illustration or "keyline" of each building to use as a guide." The final image is computer-generated giving a much better impression of the look of the building.



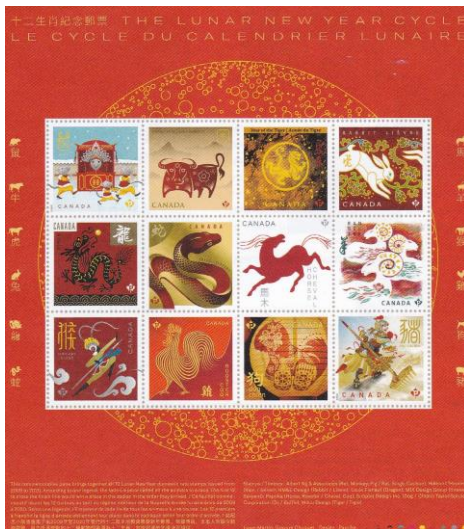
This one is The Victoria Public Library building, Unitrade 1378 issued 29 February 1996 to replace the \$5.00 *Bonsecours Market, Montreal* stamp released in 1990 (Unitrade 1183).

Canada's Stamp Details (v.5:no.1, Jan/Feb 1996) says that it is a prestigious building at the corner of Yates and Blanshard Streets in Victoria, built in 1904 with a grant from steel magnate Andrew Carnegie who built many libraries across Canada and the United States. It was designed by Thomas Hooper (1857-1935) and his partner C. Elwood Watkins (1875-1942). An example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture, it was designated a heritage site in 1979 and was restored and renovated in the 1980s by its new patron, West Coast Savings (now Pacific Coast Savings Credit Union). There is even a post office connection as many were built in similar style.

Of course there is still a Greater Victoria Public Library with 12 branches throughout the area. You can really tell that this is a west coast library system as the branches include Emily Carr, Central Saanich and the newest called the *sxʷenxʷəj təŋəxʷ* (pronounced s-hweng hw-ung tongue-oo-hw) James Bay Branch. The name means the same in both languages



Check out their website at <https://www.gvpl.ca/>. Actually many libraries have online catalogues.



The Lunar New Year Cycle mini sheet shown here has apparently become very difficult to find for purchase although the booklet format of the release from this year is still available at most post offices. A little birdie has told me that this sheet will be included in the quarter pack when it is released later this year, expected in March so actually quite soon. If you want the sheet you should sign up for it as soon as possible as they may sell out of that as well and it may not be included in the Collection Canada book at the end of the year.

I have postponed sending out overdue notices at this time. When things start to open up again I will start to process them. You can still return items if you want, an easy way is to use a flat-rate box from Canada Post, \$18.49 for the smallest. I will send a pdf or word mailing label if you want one to make it easier, just email your request.

Keep well and safe,
Willow

Librarian

library@greenefoundation.ca

Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library

<http://www.greenefoundation.ca/library.htm#about>, <https://15758.rmwebopac.com/>

Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation